Progress in the Field of Literacy in States

2736. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have shown unsatisfactory progress in the field of literacy at the end of 1994;

(b) the percentage of the target, achieved by these State Governments in female and adult literacy programmes in 1994;

(c) the reasons identified for the poor performance by these State Governments in implementing the programmes; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The progress of total literacy campaigns has been relatively slow in the major Hindi-speaking States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) No year-wise/State-wise targets are fixed for coverage of districts under literacy campaigns. During the year 1994, the number of districts covered under the total literacy campaigns in the four Hindi-speaking States were 4 in Bihar, 14 in Madhya Pradesh, 7 in Rajasthan and 11 in Uttar Pradesh. Based on the reports received from different parts of the country, women constitute more than 60% of the total learners covered under the campaigns.

(c) The reasons for the slow progress in these States *inter alia,* are large number of illiterates, dearth of committed volunteers, lack of literacy tradition/movement, widening gender bias against women, diverse socio-cultural factors, etc.

(d) In the recent past, the National Literacy Missions's thrust has been on the four major Hindi-speaking States, *i.e.* Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Some special measures like Sensitization workshops for Collectors and the other officials and non-officials involved in literacy campaigns; workshops for writers and media personnel for sensitization on literacy issues etc. were organised in these States. Further, a meeting of Chief Ministers was held in July, 1994 at Bhopal where the performance of these States was *inter alia,* reviewed. Recently a *Conference on literacy of Six States,* including these four States, was held in New Delhi where the position of campaigns in these States was reviewed comprehensively.

Integrated Child Development Project in Bihar

2737. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Sub-divisions of Bihar are being included under the second Integrated Child Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of progress accomplished in this direction upto 30th June, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI VIMLA VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A total of 210 Blocks are to be included under the World Bank Assisted ICDS-II Project in the State of Bihar. Of these, 142 Blocks have already been covered under the Project upto 31.03.95. During the current year 44 Blocks are being covered under the ICDS-II Project for which the State of Bihar has already finalised the operationalisation calander.